(c) For development of the Dehradun Airport, the State Government has been requested to acquire 300 acres of land and transfer it to Airports Authority of India (AAI) free of cost. The State Government has so far handed over only 173 acres of land. For extension of runway to 7,000 ft., construction of New Terminal Complex and allied facilities, Rs. 48.20 crores has been sanctioned by AAI.

AAI has also resurfaced runway and associated pavement at Pantnagar airport.

Modernization of Delhi and Mumbai airports

241. SHRI R.P. GOENKA: Will the Minsiter of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether any fresh initiatives have been taken recently to speed up the process of upgradation and modernization of Delhi and Mumbai airports; and

(b) if so, the details thereof, including the phased time-bound programmes drawn up for completion of the projects?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Fresh Initiatives in the process of restructuring of Delhi and Mumbai airport include:-

(i) Reconstruction of the Empowered Group of Minister (EGOM) to oversee the process of restructuring of Delhi and Mumbai.

(ii) Appointment of a Global Technical Advisor and Legal Consultant.

(iii) Maximum permissible limit of Foregin Direct Investment has been fixed at 49% and the remaining 25% equity will be held by the Indian Companies. The balance 26% will be held by Airports Authority of India (AAI) and Government Public Sector Units in the Joint Venture Companies.

(iv) Employees of AAI at Delhi and Mumbai airports will be on mandatory deputation with the Joint Venture Company for a period of 3 years and minimum of net 40% of the existing employees working at these airports excepting those working

in CNS/ATM and security would be require to be absorbed, by the Joint Venture Companies. Remaining employees would revert to AAI.

(v) The last date to receive Expression of Interest has been fixed as 20th July, 2004.

Fleet acquisition plans for AI and IA

242. SHRI R.P. GOENKA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have reviewed the fleet acquisition plans of the Indian Airlines and Air India; and

(b) if so, the results thereof and the fresh programme drawn up, if any, for fleet acquisition with a view to improving the competitive edge of the two airlines for their short and long-haul routes?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) and (b) Project Reports for acquisition of aircraft by Air India and Indian Airlines are under consideration of Government.

Consumer-oriented Civil Aviation Policy

243. SHRI KALRAJ MISHRA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have recently considered the question of laying down a consumer-oriented Civil Aviation Policy;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken and being taken in the light of the new policy to make Civil Aviation servics more consumer-oriented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) to (c) The Civil Aviation Policy is under preparation.